

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners held on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at approximately 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Village Hall, New Lenox, Illinois.

GENERAL FUNCTIONS:

- Call to order** President Schulz called the October 18, 2023, meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance** President Schulz led the Board, Staff, and all others present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Roll Call** President Schulz directed the Recording Secretary to take roll call. Upon taking roll call, the following were present, Commissioners: Kraemer, Fischer, Ott, and President Schulz.
- Also, in Attendance** Executive Director Greg Lewis, Director of Business Services Kathy Lynch, Director of Recreation Lea Pipiras, Deputy Director of Business Services Jason Braglia, Deputy Director of Business Services Karen Acklin, Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek, and Director of Golf Bob Schulz and Guest Services Supervisor Melissa McGrath.
- Treasurer's Report** Commissioner Kraemer quoted the totals from the Monthly Treasurer's Report as presented for September 30, 2023. President Schulz requested any questions or comments regarding the Monthly Treasurer's Report for September 30, 2023. Hearing no questions or comments, President Schulz requested a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented for September 30, 2023. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Fischer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Payment of Bills** Commissioner Kraemer quoted totals from the Payment of Bills as presented for September 30, 2023. President Schulz requested any questions or comments. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Payment of Bills as presented for September 30, 2023. Motion made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.
- Special Guests** Mr. Kevin Bissell, CPA from Mueller & Co. LLP delivered a presentation outlining the results of the 2022-2023 audit; a binder outlining the audits results was provided to the Board. Certificate awarded for fiscal year of 21-22 presentation. Nice achievement for district. Certificate is good for a year and most recent 22-23 fiscal year is being submitted as well. Independent auditors report arranged a little differently this year, reflects financial statements are presented fairly in all material respects on April 30, 2023. Highlights of the year, assets and deferred outflow has exceeded the liabilities and deferred inflows at year end. Property tax collections increased. District continues to devote resources to improving and maintaining parks and facilities. Golf course, banquets and program revenues increased from last year. Net impact for the year was an increase to net position. The district net position has increased and bounced back well from COVID. The General Fund budget increased from last year with a decrease that was projected. All of district's deposits were fully insured. Discussion of presentation gone through page by page. Statistically statements regarding the award for the district. No questions or comments offered from the board. Kevin Bissell, CPA, commented no difficulty in completing audit and wanted to thank the staff for their cooperation.
- Communication** President Schulz noted a letter that was received stating that IAPD President/CEO Peter Murphy had been inducted into the Illinois Outdoor Hall of Fame.
- Approval of Minutes** Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of September 20, 2023
President Schulz requested any questions or comments on the Meeting Minutes of September 20, 2023, Hearing no questions or comments, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of September 20, 2023, as presented. Motion made by Commissioner Kraemer seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Committee & Staff Reports

Business Services

Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Audit

President Schulz asked if there were any further questions regarding the Audit. Commissioner Ott stated it was nice to hear from an impartial third party say how well our staff works with the auditors to make everything as clear as possible. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to accept the Audit as presented. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Kraemer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Annual Renewal of the General Liability Insurance (Policy Period 11/08/23-11/08/24 – Current Pending)

Commissioner Ott stated that in review everything seems close to last year with a slight increase. President Schulz asked if there were any further questions regarding the Annual Renewal of the General Liability Insurance, hearing none President Schulz requested a motion to accept the Annual Renewal of the General Liability Insurance. Motion made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

PDRMA 2024 Health Plan Selection Form (NLCPD)

Commissioner Ott reported that open enrollment for staff health insurance will be taking place. Director of Business Services Kathy Lynch reported that the insurance did have a slight increase, but all seemed to be fair. President Schulz asked if there were any further questions regarding the PDRMA 2024 Health Plan Selection Form, hearing none President Schulz requested a motion to accept the PDRMA 2024 Health Plan. Motion made by Commissioner Kraemer, seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Ott wanted to congratulate Deputy Director of Business Services Karen Acklin on her retirement and thanked her for her 16 years of service.

Facilities / Planning

President Schultz commented that there is just general maintenance going on and nothing pertinent to report.

Golf Course

Commissioner Kraemer stated that September was a wet month but was still a decent month even taking into consideration that the range was closed. All leagues ended in September and all leagues will be coming back next year. High schools ended their seasons. Great month of food and beverage even with limited staff and abbreviated menu. Still have some supply chain issues. The irrigation project will be pushed off due to the range project. The range project is coming along even due to the rain during the month. Commissioner Kraemer stated that hopefully next week they will begin work on the structure. Director of Golf Bob Schulz reported that the Chili Open is full for both days and stated that the Penguin Open will be sometime in January with the hopes to have that in coordination with the range opening.

Parks/Development

Development Projects Update

Hibernia Park Phase II OSLAD Grant

Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicek reported that the rains during the month have not been helpful but the putting green with related concrete walk and the 3 fitness stations located around the pond are completed. The helical piers were installed Oct. 3rd/4th and the boardwalk being installed Nov. 13th/14th. There will be a concrete crew on site next week to start framing and forming for the footings and walls to be poured at the end of next week.

Sky Harbor Park

Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicek reported that we worked together with the village made the needed repairs to the Buffalo Box at the small shelter and it now passes inspection. Our concrete company will remove and pour new 8ft x 10ft concrete square off corner walk just north of the drop off area in about 10 days. This month staff will replace the 2 dying/dead trees located on each side of the site.

Bristol Park

Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicek reported that the Tot Lot playground was installed and opened to the public and is a huge hit for the kids/families and has been packed every day. A concrete pad has been installed for site furniture-picnic table, waste receptacle etc.

Water Chase Park

Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicek stated that we have another layout to look at and we continue to work to go out to bid at the end of November/beginning of December and look to keep things all on budget.

Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicek noted that at the end of the month staff will begin winterizing the majority of our parks and athletic sites. A good note that not since 2015 we have had 4, 252 players which is up from the last couple of years.

Recreation

Special Recreation

Executive Director Lewis asked if there were any questions on the reports in the board packet. Executive Director Lewis noted that Executive Director Keith Wallace was recognized by the National Recreation and Park Ethnic Minority Society with an Achievement Award for Outstanding Leadership. This is another example of our key leaders that go to the National Conference to learn new ideas and bring them back to our community. Executive Director Lewis stated that the inclusion at LWSRA continues to grow. They have installed and are waiting for the reader card piece to a walk that is outside of the building that is completely ADA accessible.

Staff Report

Commissioner Fischer reported that the Recreation department is bouncing back post COVID. Our before and after school program currently has 452 participants and our Trailblazers program has 100 participants, with 50 in the morning and 50 in the afternoon. We had 21 participants attend our bus trip to Starved Rock to see “Nashville Connection” and they stated that they had a wonderful time. During the month of September, we ran a total of 12 athletic/fitness programs with a total of 120 participants. The programs included t-ball, soccer, flag football, track and field, two basketball program, four volleyball programs, yoga and kickboxing. Ignite Cheer had classes for ages 4-6 and 7-17 running with a total of 25 participants per class. Our Kiddie Kampus program has a total of 195 children enrolled in our 12 classes compared to 194 from last year.

Announcements:

Commissioner Fischer announced the Gobbler Gauntlet on November 18th. 5K race with a t shirt included and a free drink at the end of the race. Director of Recreation Pipiras noted that Executive Director Lewis, Recreation Supervisor Maher and herself participated in the Village’s Citizen Academy and gave a tour of some of our facilities and parks to residents along with the history of the park district and allowed the residents to ask questions.

Unfinished Business

New Business

Resolution #23-24 Authorizing the Execution of An Agreement with TopGolf USA, Inc.

President Schulz asked if there were any questions regarding Resolution #23-24 Authorizing the Execution of An Agreement with TopGolf USA, Inc., hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Resolution #23-14 Authorizing the Execution of An Agreement with TopGolf USA, Inc. Motion made by Commissioner Kramer, seconded by Commissioner Fischer upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Community Events

President Schulz announced the upcoming events as follows:

Village of New Lenox and New Lenox Chamber of Commerce Scarecrow Stroll

Visit the New Lenox Commons to view a trail of scarecrows, each created by a local business or organization. It's free to view, scarecrows will be displayed until Wednesday, November 1st.

New Lenox Chamber Halloween Fest

Saturday, October 23, 2023, 9am to 11am in the New Lenox Commons. 9:00-9:45am

Performance by NLSJ #122 Jr. High Band, 9:00-11:00am will be Trunk or Treat and 10:00-11:00am will be the Costume Contest.

Pumpkin Smash-NEW

Saturday, November 4th from 9:00am to 12Noon. The Village is offering an environmentally friendly (not to mention FUN!) way to dispose of your pumpkins after Halloween. Residents can simply drop their pumpkins off or may stick around to try out some of the fun ways we have for their pumpkins to be smashed!

Adjournment

At approximately 6:46 p.m., President Schulz requested a motion to adjourn the October 18, 2023, Regular Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners. Upon a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melissa McGrath, Recording Secretary